State agencies, the States would be closely involved in the planning and implementation under this scheme.

Jolarpettai-Erode and Salem-Mettur Dam railway electrification

*337. SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Jolarpettai-Erode and Salem-Mettur Dam (Tamil Nadu) railway electrification projects have been postponed;

(b) if so, when the project is likely to be taken up again; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the suspension of work involves the retrenchment of a large number of railway workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Shipping service between Madras and Singapore

*338. SHRI M. VINCENT: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Shipping Corporation of India has any proposals to resume passenger shipping service between Madras and Singapore; and

(b) if not, whether any other private shipping company is proposed to be permitted to operate such services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) There is no objection to Director General Shipping permitting private shipping companies to operate this service subject to their fulfilling the statutory conditions. Director General of Shipping has conveyed no objection to 4 private companies in 1986-87 to operate the service subject to the ships selected by them possessing the requisite statutory certificates. No further progress has been reported by these companies.

Distributions of Pan Parag in IA flights

*339. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 'Pan Parag' is distributed free of cost to the Executive class on Indian Airlines;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government propose to allow other companies to distribute Pan Masalas or cigerettes in the flights?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) Pan Masala by the trade name 'Pan Parag' has been introduced as part of the meal schedule for executive class passengers on Airbus flights. Indian Airlines is paying for the Pan Masala. It has been introduced on an experimental basis, and has been found accetpable to the passengers.

(c) The present policy of Indian Airlines does not permit any companies to distribute any edible items to passengers on flights.

Cancellation of South bound trains

*340. SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that two southbound trains Himsagar Express between Jammu-Tawi to Kanyakumari and Janata Express between Jammu-Tawi to Madras were cancelled with effect from 17th May, 1987;

(b) if so, when they were restored;

(c) whether it is a fact that the reasons assigned for cancellation of these trains was, damage of a bridge at Itarsi-Khandwa junction;

(d) whether it is also a fact that other south bound trains were running on the same line without any trouble; and

(e) if so, what was the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (e) On 13 May, 1987 one of the arches of a rail bridge on the Itarsi-Khandwa section suffered structural damage. This resulted in dislocation of traffic on the Bombay-Delhi and Bombay-Howrah routes and necessitated diversion of various trains to the saturated Nagpur-Itarsi section, and regulation|cancellation of a number of trains. While most of the North-South trains continued to run, 907|908 Himsagar Express (weekly) and 17|18 Janata Express (bi-weekly) were cancelled for only one trip in either direction. Their running was resumed from 23 May and 22 May, 1987, respectively.

Formation of regional censor boards

@2763. SHRI GOPALARAO RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what are the guidelines for the appointment of the members of Regional Censor Boards; and

(b) what is the number of Telugu films censored at the Regional Office, Hyderabad since its inception?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Under Section 5 of the Cinematograph Act, 1952 (37 of 1952), the Central Government may establish at such regional centres as it thinks fit, Advisory Panels each of which shall consist of such number of persons, being persons qualified in the opinion of the Central Government to judge the effect of films on the public, as the Central Government may think fit to appoint thereto. The criteria adopted for appointment of members of the Advisory Panels of the Central Board of Film Certification at different Regional Offices, including that at Hyderabad, are as follow:—

1. Persons above the age of 65 years should not be considered.

2. Government servants and officers of autonomous bodies should not be considered.

3. Spouses and close relations of senior Government officials and VIPs should not be considered.

4. Persons connected with production, distribution, and exhibition of films should not be considered.

5. Films Publicists, full-time critics, film journalists etc. should not be considered.

6. Non-residents of the cities in which CBFC has its regional offices should not be considered.

7. Those members who have served a panel for a period of four years or more should not be considered for re-appointment.

8. Those members who have left a panel before the expiry of a period of four years without a blemish could be considered for re-appointment depending upon the merits of each case.

9. Effective measures should be taken to ensure that people with vested political interests are not allowd to infilterate.

@Previously Unstarred Question 2047 transferred from the 13th August, 1987.